

SAMPLE LETTER

Date

Senator Tom Torlakson
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814
FAX: 916-445-2527

RE: Support for AB 2762- Hate Crimes in Schools (Larry's Law)

Dear Senator Torlakson:

On behalf of _____, I am writing in support of AB 2762, which establishes a uniform, statewide reporting protocol for all school personnel when made aware that a student has been threatened or harassed.

(Info. about your organization-optional)

Over the past few years, California has experienced an alarming increase in bias-motivated incidents in public schools. Studies of school safety conducted by the California Department of Education reveal that students who were harassed based on actual or perceived sexual orientation were five times more likely be threatened or injured with a weapon. In addition, according to a 2007 GenderPAC report, 90% of youth and young adults targeted in fatal assaults because of their gender identity and expression were males who looked or acted femininely.

As California grows more diverse, inter-group tensions will continue to rise in many communities and will inevitably affect public schools. Hate and bias must be addressed by our public education system in order to preserve a safe learning environment for all students.

We are pleased to support AB 2762 because it will ensure that school officials are equipped to take appropriate actions in helping mediate problems before they become acts of hate and violence.

Sincerely,

Signature

Name and Title

Organization

Address

Telephone Number / email address